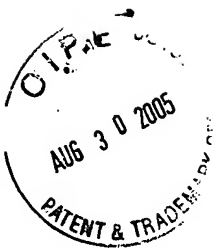


Claims:

1. (Previously presented) In a tape recording device, comprising:
 - a supply reel and a take-up reel, a head for recording data to the tape or reading data from the tape or both, a servo system capable of moving the tape between the supply reel and the take-up reel past said head;
 - a recording system, comprising:
 - an actuator capable of moving said head across the recording surface of said tape;
 - a flexure having a first end attached to the head and a second end attached to the actuator;
 - whereas the flexure allows the head to move towards the tape;
 - and
 - whereas the flexure is biased against the tape and therefore urges the head towards the tape; and
 - whereas the flexure allows the head to move so that the head surface is substantially aligned with the tape surface.
2. (Previously presented) A tape recording device of claim 1 additionally comprising a spring;
 - whereas the spring enhances the bias of the flexure.
3. (Currently Amended) A tape recording device system of claim 1 further comprising a means to stabilize the tape at the recording area.
4. (Currently Amended) A tape recording device system of claim 3, whereas the means to stabilize the tape is a hydrodynamic bearing.
5. (Currently Amended) A tape recording device system of claim 3, whereas the means to stabilize the tape is a dual bump hydrodynamic bearing and the stabilized area is between the two bumps.
6. (Currently Amended) A tape recording device system of claim 3, whereas the means to stabilize the tape is a hydrostatic bearing.
7. (Currently Amended) A tape recording device system of claim 3, whereas the means to stabilize the tape is a roller bearing.



8. (Withdrawn) A recording system of claim 3 further comprising:
 - a second flexure having a first end attached to the actuator and
 - a second end attached to a guiding block.
9. (Withdrawn) A means to stabilize the tape according to claim 8
whereas the guiding block is a second recording head.
10. (Withdrawn) A recording system according to claim 3 further
comprising a means to separate the recording head from the stabilizer
to allow the head to move in and out of the tape thread path.
11. (Withdrawn) A mechanism to separate the head from the stabilizer
according to claim 10 comprising:
 - a solenoid having a plurality of positions,
 - a plurality of rods movably attached to the solenoid;
 - whereas the rods separate the head from the tape when the
solenoid is in a first position; and
 - whereas the rods allow the head to contact the tape when the
solenoid is in a second position.
12. (Canceled).
13. (Canceled).
14. (Canceled).